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Compensatory Instruction For English Language Learners

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide a clear understanding of the Compensatory Education program for English Language Learners (ELLs) and the process for districts and charter school to apply for funds. The language in House Bill 2010 (HB2010) has provided that funds be appropriated to districts and charter schools ELL programs. There are specific uses for these funds, one being compensatory education.

HB2010 states in Section 12, Part A, the appropriations, purpose, and exemption of compensatory education funds, which says:

"The sum of \$3,080,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2001-2002 to the department of education for distribution to school districts and charter schools for compensatory instruction for English learners. Eligible school districts and charter schools shall receive an amount for every English learner who is not making adequate academic progress as prescribed by rules adopted by the state board of education. The per pupil amount shall be determined by dividing the appropriation by the number of English learners in this state who are not making adequate academic progress. In order to be eligible for monies appropriated pursuant to this section, a school district or charter school must demonstrate to the department of education that it has established a satisfactory compensatory instruction program. School districts and charter schools that receive monies pursuant to this section shall only spend these monies on compensatory instruction. A school district or charter school shall not receive more than one hundred dollars per English learner from monies distributed pursuant to this section."

Section 12, Part E says:

"If federal monies are received by the department of education for the specific purposes for which monies are appropriated pursuant to this section, the department of education shall revert the portion of the state general fund appropriation received equal to the federal dollars received for this purpose in the year that federal monies are received, if the reversion is consistent with federal law."

Section 12, Part F says:

"The appropriations made in this section are exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations."

HB2010 further states that the sum of \$5,500,000 will be appropriated during the 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005 school years.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is "Compensatory Instruction"?

Compensatory Instruction is instruction for ELL students that are not meeting the standards or making academic progress. This instruction should be aimed at the identified areas. It can include before or after school tutoring, summer school, intersession, etc.

2. Can funds be used for other students or special student populations other than ELLs?

No.

3. We don't have a compensatory instruction program for ELLs in place. Are we still eligible for funds?

An LEA is eligible for funds if they have ELL students that are not meeting the standards or making academic progress. A Compensatory Instruction program review and fiscal application must be submitted to ADE in order to receive funding.

4. What is considered a "satisfactory compensatory instruction program" as stated in HB2010?

A satisfactory compensatory instruction program is "aimed at curing the skill or knowledge deficits revealed by the reassessment results." (Flores)

5. How do we determine what ELLs qualify for compensatory instruction?

To determine which ELL students qualify for compensatory instruction, you must look at the assessment and reassessment results in the content areas and language proficiency. From there, you need to determine which ELL students are not meeting the standards or making academic progress.

6. Can all ELLs – those not making adequate progress and those who are – participate in compensatory instruction?

No, compensatory instruction is for ELL students that are not meeting the standards or making academic progress.

7. Can funds be carried over?

Yes.

8. Can funds be spent for teacher salaries and/or benefits, transportation, professional training, administrative help or other supplemental services?

Funds must be spent on providing <u>instruction</u> for ELL students not meeting the standards. This can include teacher salaries and benefits. In order to provide the instruction, students need a way of getting to the place of instruction so transportation costs are allowable. Professional training, administrative help or other supplemental services are not allowable expenditures since they do not focus on <u>instruction</u> for the ELL students not meeting the standards.

9. Can funds be spent for scholarships?

Yes, as long as the scholarships are for ELL students that are not meeting the standards or making academic progress.

10. If approved for funding, how much money will we get and when?

The amount of funding is based on the number of ELL students in the state that are not meeting the standards or making academic progress. The funds are disbursed after the LEAs apply on-line for the funding.

11. Are there due dates or deadlines for applying for funds?

ADE sets deadlines for the allocation process. Notification is sent to the LEAs annually and includes these deadlines.